



City of Rockville
MEMORANDUM

May 27, 2005

TO: Twinbrook Neighborhood Plan Advisory Group (TNPAG)

FROM: Ann Wallas, Planner II, Long Range Planning

SUBJECT: TNPAG Meeting Thursday June 2, 2005 – Recreation and Parks

The TNPAG meeting next week bring you information about Recreation and Parks programs and facilities.

The Strengths Weaknesses Opportunities Threats (SWOT) exercise conducted during the two community meetings held in November 2004 indicated that Twinbrook residents have a generally positive impression of the City of Rockville's recreational and parks facilities and believe that City services, cultural diversity, facilities for children, involved citizens, neighborhood safety and a sense of community are neighborhood Strengths.

"Recreational Options – both City and commercial" was noted as an Opportunity. In addition a number of additional Opportunities were identified, including an expansion of the Community and Recreation Center, more programs at Rockcrest, more programs for teens and additional Art in public parks.

However, several areas of concern were raised during the community meetings, were identified as issues to be addressed by the TNP, or have emerged in discussion since. These include:

- The future use of non-city owned facilities.
- Are the needs of Twinbrook's senior population being met?
- Should there be some form of parkland and open space protection and, if so, what method should be used.
- The Park Land Acquisition Fund CIP has been assigned "placeholder" status and is unfunded. Is this appropriate?
- What is the most effective method of providing Recreation and Parks programs? Is the system of cost recovery appropriate for the community's current (and future) needs?

City staff, including Burt Hall, Director of Parks and Recreation, will be on hand to talk about these issues. Please use this time to ask questions about the programs and facilities and to learn as much as you can. This discussion should help you to not only understand the issues as they relate to the Twinbrook neighborhoods, but also help you to form ideas about what direction the TNPAG should give on them as we move into the areas of land use and zoning, and as the Plan itself begins to take shape.

We try to include as much background information in the packets as possible; however, sometimes a new issue surfaces or additional information emerges. We put this supplemental information on the tables at the Advisory Group meetings.

The following information is enclosed with this memo:

- Agenda for the TNPAG meeting on Thursday June 2, 2005, at 7:00 pm in The Cottage.
- The Department of Recreation and Parks initial response to the questions posed during the TNPAG Issues session on April 21, 2005.
- A list of all the activities programmed at Recreational and Parks facilities in the Twinbrook neighborhoods.
- Data and a map showing participation by Twinbrook seniors in City sponsored senior activities.
- Memo from the Civic Center Superintendent outlining the Civic Center Long Range CIP.
- Meeting Notes from the May 19, 2005 meeting.
- If you were unable to join us on May 5 or May 19, you will also find a copies of the information handed out during the meeting.